

Introduced Version

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION No. 4

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

Citations Affected: Articles 6 and 15 of the Indiana Constitution.

Synopsis: Local government consolidation. Provides that a county legislative body may consolidate, eliminate, or prescribe additional qualifications for any of the county's constitutional offices. Provides that the general assembly may provide by law for two or more counties to consolidate into one county, even if the area of the consolidated county is less than 400 square miles. This proposed amendment has not been previously agreed to by a general assembly.

Effective: This proposed amendment must be agreed to by two consecutive general assemblies and ratified by a majority of the state's voters voting on the question to be effective.

Hinkle

January 8, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on Rules and Legislative Procedures.

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Introduced

First Regular Session 115th General Assembly (2007)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2006 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION No. 4

A JOINT RESOLUTION proposing an amendment to Articles 6 and 15 of the Indiana Constitution concerning local government.

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of the
2 State of Indiana is proposed and agreed to by this, the One Hundred
3 Fifteenth General Assembly of the State of Indiana, and is referred to
4 the next General Assembly for reconsideration and agreement.
- 5 SECTION 2. ARTICLE 6, SECTION 3 OF THE CONSTITUTION
6 OF THE STATE OF INDIANA IS AMENDED TO READ AS
7 FOLLOWS: Section 3. **(a)** Such other county and township officers as
8 may be necessary, shall be elected, or appointed, in such manner as
9 may be prescribed by law.
- 10 **(b) Notwithstanding Section 2 or Section 4 of this Article, the**
11 **legislative body of a county may do any of the following as**
12 **provided by law:**
- 13 **(1) Consolidate any of the offices established for the county in**
14 **Section 2 of this Article.**

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1 **(2) Eliminate any of the offices established for the county in**
2 **Section 2 of this Article.**

3 **(3) Prescribe additional qualifications for any of the offices**
4 **established for the county in Section 2 of this Article.**

5 SECTION 3. ARTICLE 15, SECTION 7 OF THE CONSTITUTION
6 OF THE STATE OF INDIANA IS AMENDED TO READ AS
7 FOLLOWS: Section 7. ~~No (a) The area of a county shall may not be~~
8 reduced to an area less than four hundred **(400)** square miles. ~~nor shall~~
9 any ~~The area of a county under that whose area is less than four~~
10 **hundred (400) square miles may not** be further reduced.

11 **(b) The General Assembly may provide by law for two (2) or**
12 **more counties to consolidate into one (1) county. Notwithstanding**
13 **subsection (a), two (2) or more counties may consolidate into one**
14 **(1) county even if the area of the consolidated county is less than**
15 **four hundred (400) square miles.**

